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AN

L. Palmer
London

ADDRESS TO PERSONS

WHO ENTERTAIN THE WISH TO BETTER THEMSELVES BY

EMIGRATING TO CANADA,

AS WELL AS TO

PARISH OFFICERS, CHURCHWARDENS,
AND OVERSEERS,

AND ALL CONCERNED IN PROVIDING FOR THE

POOR OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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ADDRESS TO PERSONS

WHO ENTERTAIN THE WISH TO BETTER THEMSELVES BY

EMIGRATING TO CANADA.

THE unprecedented numbers who are every day shewing a disposition to try to improve their condition by a removal to the *fruitful, peaceable and healthy* colony of CANADA, and which are daily increasing, as proved by the extraordinary preparations now actively going on in almost all our sea ports, have their attention called to the following remarks:—

First, we shall candidly pronounce who *ought* NOT to go there, in order that all such persons may *save themselves from certain disappointment*, after they shall have undergone all *the fatigue and expence of a long voyage*: viz.

Those who are happily situated at home, maintaining their families comfortably, and who are able to lay by sufficient for their support in old age, and for the eligible establishment of their children.

Those who have nothing but birth or wealth to recommend them, or who have no useful occupation. In Canada as in England, it is the active *working bee*, and not the drone that gathers the honey to the hive.

Those who are of a restless, factious, and quarrelsome turn of mind, or those who think that in Canada every one, however wrong-headed, can do whatever is right in his own eyes, without regard to either law, justice, or decorum. Canada is a land of liberty, but it also has its laws, to which all persons without distinction must submit.

Those who expect to make a fortune suddenly, without much exertion—those who are indolent, or of dissolute habits—ardent spirits being excessively cheap, all those, who cannot refrain from a too free use of them, are certain to bring on rapidly, premature disease, disgrace, and death.

Those who are not seriously disposed to industry and economy had better stay away.

Those who will be discouraged by the difficulties which very rarely fail to attend a change of country, or who are of too weakly constitution to endure labour and fatigue.*

After weighing deliberately all the foregoing *disqualifications*, if you think that your situation in life would be improved materially by a removal to *Canada*, the first thing you should do, should be to consult your wives: as they have to bear part of the fatigues of removal and the privations which must attend a change of residence, from a thickly settled country, into an unsettled wilderness, or at least into a very thinly inhabited country, it is but fair they should have a voice as to removal: if after well considering the

* Those who have been brought up wholly in *manufactories*, or to habits of sedentary life, and are, therefore, unfit for active agricultural labour, have as yet no business in *Canada*.

subject, they agree with you in opinion that such a step would be advantageous, you should then proceed to *sell all* the property you may happen to own, reserving only enough to answer your purpose until you arrive at the sea port from which you intend to depart, and what may be absolutely necessary for your accommodation on ship-board—but take little or nothing to be used in Canada which *you can sell at home*—many emigrants have made a great mistake by encumbering themselves with articles which cost them more to get to their final destination, than they could buy them for in the neighbourhood where they have settled. There is now no part of Canada which you can well go to, but where you can obtain within a reasonable distance, every thing which is necessary for your use and comfort, if you have money wherewith to purchase—therefore turn all you have into cash.

Take your wives and children, your sons and your daughters, who instead of being the smallest incumbrance to you, *are there a source of riches and contentment*, take *all* belonging to you who are able and willing to work :*—*sober, honest, and industrious* people are what is wanted in Canada—such will find a hearty welcome, when they shew by their conduct and conversation that they are of this description.

Be watchfully on your guard not to be entrapped

* It is scarcely necessary to say, that in such a country as *Canada*, there is constant useful employment for children ; and that as they grow up, the youth invariably aspire to become the possessors of land ; consequently as population increases, unoccupied, or as they are termed, *wild lands*, must rapidly diminish in extent.

into taking your passage in any ship that is *overcrowded*; or that is badly provided, especially with *water*, and *medical assistance*: great and very just complaints were made last year on this subject: which arose from the avarice of the owners or masters of some vessels making up *by numbers* for the reduced fares for passage; and thereby not only compromising the comfort but endangering the safety and health of their passengers: this was understood to be of most frequent occurrence with ships that sailed from ports in *Ireland*, or some of the *Eastern* parts of England and Scotland, and some of which are said to have actually taken many poor creatures on board *at sea, after they had cleared, and left the harbour*. It is to be hoped that past experience will this season, cause the government to put some restriction upon ship-owners, and to punish with the utmost rigour of the law, all who in any way infringe them; or should they even escape our own laws, it is to be fervently desired, that they may fall under the cognizance and lash of those of the Colony.*

When you arrive at *Quebec, Montreal, or New York*, (in case you should choose to go by the latter route,) do not place too much dependence upon what may be said to you by such persons as, prompted generally by *self-interested motives*, are apt to visit

* Those who are not cabin passengers very often lay in their own provisions for the voyage, which ought not to be calculated at less than *fifty days*. It is true that it is occasionally run in the short space of three weeks, especially in the spring of the year, when easterly winds prevail, but be wise, and do not trust to what is by no means common.

the ship on her arrival in port; even if they came from the same town or district from which you have come, still, unless you were well acquainted with them at home, and know them to be worthy of credit, you are not to place too much reliance on all they say.

Take your family with you along the river, or water conveyance as far as the same may be done, or until you arrive at some suitable place in the neighbourhood of the land on which you expect to settle. It will cost no more, if so much, to maintain them there, than it would if you left them in *Quebec, Montreal*, or elsewhere; and then you will have them ready and convenient when you have decided where to settle.

In advancing up the country you must expect to encounter some inconveniences, but do not let any old prejudices interrupt the objects which induced you to cross the Atlantic. In *Lower Canada* the inhabitants are inoffensive, obliging, and industrious; and are also truly loyal subjects of his Majesty; but the French language is in that province most generally spoken, and the old French laws there prevail. The only instance we heard of last year, of the return to England of any emigrants who went out with the intention of settling, was of a few who, although nearly paupers, could only give as a reason for so doing, "that they found the inhabitants of the places they stopt at only spoke French." To this we can only say Canada is well rid of such idiots.

Do not expect *every thing* that is desirable to be found in any one spot; if you do, you will never get

suitable *either in Canada, or in any other country.* Some places have one advantage, some another—some may combine several, and yet lack some very important thing : *good water and a healthy situation* are two points which we cannot too earnestly press upon you to look after. If you are in good health when you arrive in the colony, you may calculate, with the blessing of Providence and proper care, upon enjoying as good a state of health as you ever had in your own country ; but again we say, with a bad or weak constitution, do not think of starting at all.

It may not be misplaced here to give you the following short extract from the last report made to the Shareholders by the Directors of the Canada Company, at their Meeting on the 21st December last :—

Extract from the Despatches of their Commissioners dated GUELPH, Upper Canada, Nov. 21, 1831.

“With one single exception, every one in the settlement appears in a prosperous state, and that unfortunate individual is the Doctor, and the only one in the township, or within many miles ; yet, notwithstanding that, he cannot get a living by his profession, some evidence in favour of the salubrity of the place.”

For general useful and practical information as to *Canada, and particularly the UPPER Province*, your earnest attention is directed to the printed papers, to be had (*gratis*) at the *Canada Company's Office, St. Helen's Place, Bishopsgate Street*, and which papers are fully descriptive of its *Geographical Situation, Climate, Soil, Productions, &c., &c.*

The *Canada Company* will also supply you with copies of letters from Settlers, which are especially worthy your notice ; but it may save you much useless trouble to impress fully upon you, that the Company necessarily limits itself to giving information, and *possesses no funds* that are applicable to aid or assist Emigrants.

For any money deposited with the Company in London, they would, we believe, give you an order to be paid to you on demand, at the office of the Company's Commissioner in York, Upper Canada, and which would save you from all risque of loss on your sea voyage and land journey up to the place of your ultimate destination.

There are also other publications of letters from Emigrants in Canada to their friends at home, in various shapes ; but we think we cannot serve your interest more than by directing your notice to those contained in the *third article* of the *Quarterly Review for January, 1832*, in fact, the *whole* of that article will richly repay your trouble of perusal ; for its very able and talented writer proves, to the least inquiring capacity, that *Great Britain* must either relieve itself from the embarrassments occasioned by a constantly increasing population, (estimated *at the rate of above 800 per day*) by encouraging Emigration to such a fertile and near colony as the *Canadas*, or that "the general wealth and prosperity of the country must give way, if not by a convulsive explosion, yet by a rapid, and when once it has fairly set in, incurable decline"—to a colony too, as the author so truly and eloquently says, that is an integral part of the Empire ; whose interests are

identified with our own, extent almost boundless, fertility extraordinary, and as yet comparatively a very small proportion of the best quality of its richest soils has been ploughed or cleared at all; enjoying also nearly the same climate, acknowledging the same laws, and *peopled from the same families*, and consequently of prodigious value as a field for the application of *British labour and capital*, and as a *Market for British Manufactures*; supplying her in return with *cheap Corn*, and at the same time drawing closer the bonds of union between the parent state and colony, and, by placing its inhabitants on the footing of fellow subjects, preventing all desire for a separation; indeed, as the writer justly observes, under such circumstances we cannot contemplate its possibility; and all this accomplished also by the *agency of our own ships and seamen*.

In addition to the before-mentioned recent publications, we call your notice to the following, viz:—

1. Topographical and Statistical Description of Lower and Upper Canada, by Lieutenant-Colonel Bouchette, 2 vols., price 2*l.* 17*s.*; Maps 4*l.* 10*s.*
2. Macgregor's British America, 2 vols., price 1*l.* 8*s.*
3. The Advantages of Emigration to Canada, by William Cattermole. Published by Simpkin and Marshall, Stationer's-court, Ludgate-hill, price 3*s.*
4. Hints to Emigrants to Upper Canada, by Martin Doyle. Published by Hurst and Chance, St. Paul's Church-yard, price 1*s.*

To those who cannot obtain access to the two first named works, we can with confidence recommend that of *Mr. Cattermole*, as being replete with infor-

mation and good sense; and he moreover speaks from actual experience, having resided for several years in *Upper Canada*, and to which he is now on the eve of returning with a large body of most respectable settlers; after doing the Colony much service at home, by being at all times accessible to applicants for information, and readily giving them the full benefit of his experience.

To all those in any way concerned in providing for the *poor* of these realms, we have in addition to our foregoing remarks to say, that the mere sending them to *Canada*, without supplying them with the further means of proceeding up the country, and of subsistence until *they find employment, or a location*, would be the height of cruelty and injustice, as well to the pauper himself, as to the inhabitants of the place of his debarkation, on whom he would most probably become a burthen. Neither can it be prudent or politic in them, *in order to obtain a temporary relief*, to send there *either the drunkard, the depraved, or the idler*; for the great probability would be, that *such would very shortly return upon their hands after all their outlay to get rid of them*. We cannot precisely say the exact sum it may take to send each individual to *Quebec* from a British sea port; but a calculation of from 3*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* for adults, and *half-price* for children under fourteen years of age, cannot be wide of the mark—*exclusive of provisions*.

And from 3*l.* to 5*l.* per head, according to age, sex, and circumstances, we consider to be absolutely necessary to remit to the place of their landing in *Canada*, to enable them to proceed into the interior.

The *best* positive and uncontradictory *proof* we

can offer of, and one which will convey more impressively to your conviction, the rapidly increasing prosperity of the *Province of Upper Canada*, will be by giving a *verbatim* copy of the *straight-forward* and *business-like* speech of His Excellency *Sir John Colborne, K.C.B.*, their Lieutenant-Governor, on closing the Session of the Provincial Parliament, of the late date of

YORK, UPPER CANADA,
January 28, 1832.

SPEECH.

"Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly ;—

"In relieving you from your Legislative duties, it is satisfactory to me to observe, that you have directed your attention to several objects of great interest to the Colony.

"Gentlemen of the House of Assembly ;—

"I thank you in His Majesty's name, for the sums voted for public institutions, and works carrying on in the Province.

"Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen ;—

"The extent and fertility of the unoccupied lands, will continue to attract to this country large portions of the redundant population of the Parent State. I am, therefore, persuaded, that on your return to your respective counties, your influence may be usefully exerted in organizing societies for the purpose of affording the information to emigrants which they so much require, at the ports where they first disembark, and in facilitating their dispersion in the districts in which they may readily obtain employment.

"The increasing value of land ; the harbours, canals,

and steam-boats now constructing; the number of acres brought into cultivation in most districts; the projected internal commerce by steam-vessels on Lake Simcoe, and the Rice Lake, are the favourable results of recent emigration.

"The exports of staple products of the Province, last season, amounted to a third more than those of the preceding year; and the sales of imported articles have been doubled in three years.

"Such are the proofs of the prosperity and independence, which, in a few years, have been created wholly in the Province, by the industry and labour of the great body of settlers; and also of the general prosperity and progressive advancement of the interests of the Colony."

Finally, to the humane and affluent, we quote another highly interesting passage from the excellent article (before alluded to) in the *Quarterly Review*, after showing the striking and delightful change in the condition of those emigrants in Canada, whose letters to their friends at home they copy, and most of whom had emerged from a state of pauperism:

"What a resource is here opened," he says, "to us in our difficulties, what a well-spring of joy and hope is found to bubble up in the wilderness, for the relief of our parched and thirsty population. How cheaply, then, may we now purchase the pleasure of making the happiness of a fellow-creature! Here is a new and poignant luxury for our epicurean felicity-hunters. For 20*l.* a whole family may be removed from the depths of misery to a state of certain and permanent prosperity; as far as any

thing human is certain and permanent—their selves and their descendants! ”*

To which we shall add, that here indeed is a wide field open for the display of the real benevolence of our nobles and our men of wealth. Here likewise may the *emancipationist* find room for the *useful* employment of his time, his talents, and his money; let him turn his serious attention and exertions to freeing his *white* fellow-countrymen, so many of whom are writhing at home under the severe lash of wretched and degrading pauperism; and until he has carried this into the *fullest effect*, let him cease by his ill-judged meddlings and misrepresentations from conjuring up imaginary wants and complaints of grievances in those, who were previously, quietly and inoffensively doing their duties in that state of life in which it had pleased Providence to place them; but who are now by their murders, burnings, and open rebellion, giving practical proofs in our best *West India* islands, of the poisonous fruits that may be brought to maturity by mischievous interference, want of experience, visionary enthusiasm, and, as we conscientiously believe, gross ignorance on the part of nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand of our comfortable fire-side politicians, who, however pure their intentions may be, legislate

* We fear that the *Quarterly Review* has underrated the sum necessary to remove a whole family to *Canada*, and that it cannot safely be estimated at less than £10 per head for adults, and £5 for children under fourteen years of age, and that too calculated *from the day of their going on board their ship*.

in the dark, and without foreseeing inevitable consequences.

While we offer these remarks, we entirely disclaim all intention of hurting the feelings of any particular class, but cannot consider them as here misplaced, or inapplicable to the subject we have been treating upon, in as far as *Facts* are always far more illustrative than *Theories*, and we know of no instance that is calculated to bring home to our senses the truth of that safe and sensible old proverb, "*Charity should begin at home*," than the deplorable state of anarchy, to which that fine Island of *Jamaica* was reduced, when the last accounts came away.

We here renounce the most remote pretence to authorship, or to the credit of having set forth any thing that is quite new—our object has merely been to condense, and bring into a small compass, those observations which we thought, while they could not do harm, *might tend to some good*, and that too at a time when emigration to *Canada* occupies the thoughts and attention of such multitudes of our fellow-countrymen. We do not hesitate to say we are convinced that a careful study of those publications which we have pointed out, and more especially of the *Quarterly Review*, will bring conviction to almost every man's mind, as it has to ours, that *Canada* is every day becoming more and more worthy of being estimated as one of the *brightest jewels of the British Crown*, as well from its superiority in point of geographical situation and facility of access from these Islands, from the salubrity of its climate, (against which the ignorant and uninformed alone are prejudiced, but which better information, and increased

intercourse is hourly wearing away,) from the extraordinary fecundity of its soil, which offers to every one who cultivates it with common industry, not only the necessities, but many of the luxuries of life, but last, *though not least*, from acting as a *safety valve*, and giving us a vent to our daily increasing redundant population, and how providential is it, that we possess a hive so well prepared, and so admirably adapted, to receive the swarms we must throw off, in order to afford relief and space to ourselves!

Let us only hope that our rulers and legislators will prize it according to its real merits, and lose no time in *turning it to all the uses and advantages it is so capable of*; and let us also hope, that the present miserable situation of our West India islands may serve as a beacon to give them *timely warning* against incautious, heedless, or impolitic legislation for a colony of such inestimable importance to us, and which only asks for the fostering care of the parent state to enable it every day to become more and more capable of contributing to *our own strength instead of that of a rival*. But of the latter event we can augur not the most remote chance, so long as our laws are administered through the mild and conciliatory medium of such men as Lord Aylmer and Sir John Colborne.

As many of our readers may not be aware of the fact, we shall end this address by shewing the number of Emigrants that have arrived at the port of Quebec for the last four years, the vast annual increase of which is most remarkable; and we speak from good authority when we add, that the greatest part of them were fleeing with honest, manly, and

commendable pride, to seek refuge from *overseers* and the *poor-house*, and that many of them, from industry and frugal habits, are now in a situation, not alone of comfort and moderate independence, but capable of rendering assistance to those friends and relatives they left behind them in Great Britain.

Emigrants landed at Quebec.

1828	-	-	12,000
1829	-	-	16,000
1830	-	-	28,000
1831	-	-	50,000

And the preparations now going on, have induced many to estimate the probable emigration to Canada for 1832, at 100,000 at least, and that the *Capital* carried with them will be six times greater than it ever has been before. Some specific plan is, however, still much wanted for rendering emigration practicable on a large scale to the *poor*; this must now come home to the breast of every benevolent member of society, and the subject has treasured within it a rich reward for that man, whose love of doing good shall be equalled by a sufficiency of talent and influence to carry it into execution.

Since the foregoing was put to press, we have had our attention called to a small pamphlet entitled, "*Information published by His Majesty's Commissioners for Emigration, respecting the British Colonies in North America.*"

We need scarcely recommend it also to the notice of all those to whom we have made this address.

One observation we cannot avoid making respecting the rule which his Majesty's Government

SAMT-SUPDCE

has thus *officially* announced its intention to pursue hereafter, which rule is, neither to give *free grants* of *land, tools*, nor *provisions* to those Emigrants who land in *Canada*, and *for reasons which we think are good*; but we cannot understand why some of our men-of-war should not be employed during the *spring* and *summer* months in conveying across the Atlantic some of those who *cannot get a passage by any other means*. Surely such a plan would combine also that other useful and necessary object of exercising our own navy in a time of peace, when they have little else to do.

We are aware that the prejudices of some of our Naval officers may induce them not to relish this scheme, but when the welfare of a whole nation is concerned, patriotism must induce them to banish those prejudices.

By employing only *two-deckers*, and taking the guns off of one of the decks, more space for numbers may not only be given, but the emigrants may be kept almost wholly separate from the crews.

We do not say that our men-of-war should take emigrants indiscriminately, but that a *judicious selection* should be made of those, who *offer to pay for their provisions at a fixed rate per diem*—thus giving them merely a *free passage*.

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